

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, comprising:

a computer-readable medium; and

a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:

a scheduling component that employs a dataflow diagram constructed by a user based on an XML scheduling programming language to define a flow of a business ~~process~~ processes, the dataflow diagram includes actions that are coupled via data flowing between them ~~[[.]]~~ and defined as virtual ports and messages representing business operations received between the virtual ports wherein the scheduling component employs XML programming language, the scheduling component can implement and implements the business process ~~processes~~ independent of business operations represented in the dataflow diagram and technology(ies) or application(s) through which the business operations are performed their technology-specific applications; and

a binding component independent of the scheduling component that binds ~~the plurality of business operations associated with a business process and their technology-specific applications~~ to the technology(ies) or application(s) through which the business operations are performed, the binding component uses one or more binding files constructed by a user for the technology(ies) or application(s) through which the business operations are performed via an XML scheduling programming language to define one or more through at least one schedule message structures, at least one port connection port connections, at least one

~~port, and at least one message interface with the dataflow diagram, port interfaces, or message interfaces for the technology(ies) or application(s) and to resolve references to virtual ports or messages in the dataflow diagram to references to the technology(ies) or application(s) wherein the binding component employs XML programming language.~~

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines technology specific information for binding business operations to at least one technological component.
10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.
11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 8, ~~further comprising a~~ the binding files provide file that provides port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.
12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.
13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines context semantics.
14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.
15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, further including a second binding component that binds the business operations with a second component outside of the dataflow diagram.

16. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, the system comprising a computer-readable medium and a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:

a scheduling component that defines the flow of business processes in a schedule, the schedule is created by a user via an XML scheduling programming language and comprises respective actions that correspond to respective business operations and are connected by data flowing therebetween, the actions are defined as ports representing technological components and messages representing business operations received between ports, wherein the scheduling component is based in XML, the scheduling component can implement the business processes independent of implementations of workflow; and

a binding component created based on an XML scheduling programming language independently of the schedule that separates the schedule from implementations of a workflow and maps actions in the schedule to [[the]] implementations of ~~the plurality of~~ business operations at least in part by defining one or more message structures, port connections, port interfaces, or message interfaces for technological components that implement the business operations and resolving references to ports or messages in the schedule to the technological components, wherein the binding component is based in XML.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, ~~business operations are actions connected by data flowing between them and actions are ports and messages wherein a~~ binding file provides virtual port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines context semantics.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.

22. (Currently amended) A computer implemented business process scheduling software comprising:

a data flow module that allows a user to define a flow of business processes in a file that is utilized with disparate implementations of a plurality of business operations by employing an XML scheduling programming language, wherein the data flow module utilizes XML programming language, the data flow module represents the disparate implementations of the business operations as virtual ports, represents the business operations as messages received between the virtual ports, and implements ~~can~~ implement the flow of business processes independent of the disparate implementations of the plurality of business operations; and

a binding module that allows a user to define a link between the file with business processes and the disparate implementations of the plurality of business operations [[.]] by creating one or more binding files using an XML scheduling programming language that resolve references to virtual ports or messages in the file with business processes to the disparate implementations of the business processes wherein the binding module utilizes XML programming language.

23. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify the business implementation to apply to a business process.

24. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify programmable semantics of the data flow module.

25-28. (Canceled).